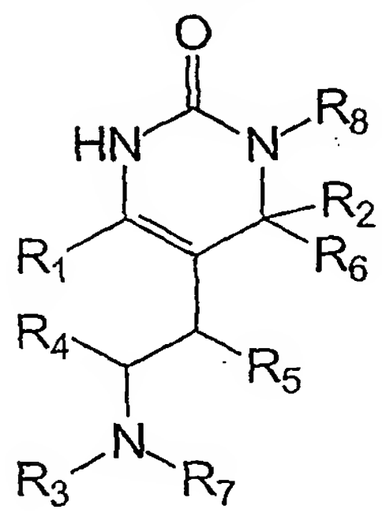
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula I or salts thereof,



I

wherein $R_1$ and $R_3$ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted carbonyl(R), O(R), S(R), N(R)(R"), SO(R), $SO_2$(R), alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein these groups may be branched or unbranched and may be optionally substituted;

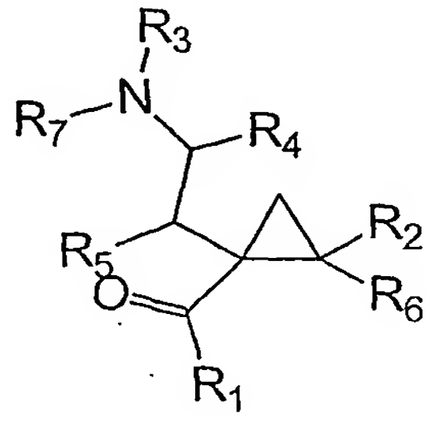
$R_2$ and $R_4$-$R_6$ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted O(R), S(R), N(R)(R"), alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein these groups may be branched or unbranched and may be optionally substituted;

$R_7$ is absent or selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted O(R), S(R), N(R)(R"), alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein these groups may be branched or unbranched and may be optionally substituted;

$R_8$ is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted O(R), S(R), N(R)(R"), alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein these groups may be branched or unbranched and may be optionally substituted; and

R and R" are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, optionally substituted alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl , cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein these groups may be branched or unbranched and may be optionally substituted.

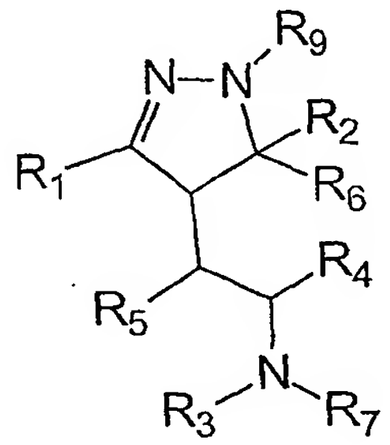
2. A compound of formula II or salts thereof,



II

wherein $R_1$ - $R_7$, R and R" are as defined in claim 1.

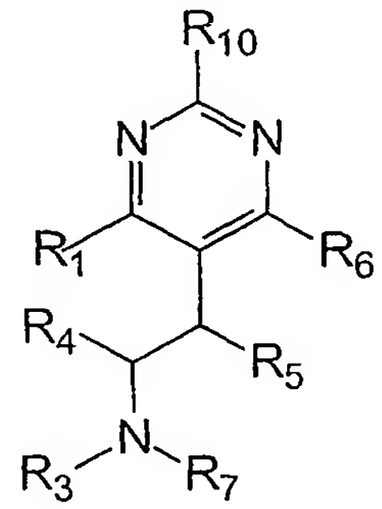
3. A compound of formula III or salts thereof,



III

wherein $R_1$ - $R_7$, R and R" are as defined in claim 1 and $R_9$ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl.

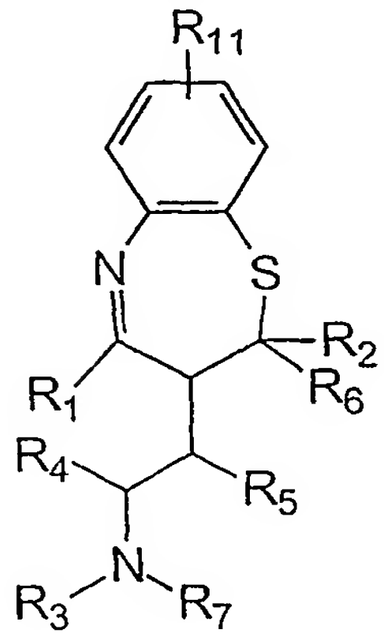
4. A compound of formula IV or salts thereof,



IV

wherein $R_1$ - $R_7$, R and R" are as defined in claim 1 and $R_{10}$ is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl.

5. A compound of formula V or salts thereof,



V

wherein $R_1$ - $R_7$, R and R" are as defined in claim 1 and $R_{11}$ is absent or selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted O(R), S(R), N(R)(R"), alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, heterocyclyl, aryl and heteroaryl, wherein these groups may be branched or unbranched and may be optionally substituted.

6. The compound according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein $R_1$ is phenyl or a substituted phenyl.

7. The compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein $R_2$ is hydrogen.

8. The compound according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein $R_4$ and $R_5$ is hydrogen.

9. The compound according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein $R_3$ and $R_7$ is an acyclic carbon group independently selected from the group consisting of $C_1$-$C_8$ alkyl and $C_1$-$C_8$ alkenyl.

10. The compound according to claim 9, wherein $R_3$ and $R_7$ is an ethyl group.

11. The compound according to any one of claims 1 to 10, wherein $R_6$ is an optionally substituted phenyl group.

12. The compound according to any one of claims 1 to 11, wherein $R_6$ is 4-chlorophenyl.

13. The compound according to claim 1, wherein $R_8$ is methyl.

14. The compound according to claim 3, wherein $R_9$ is methyl.

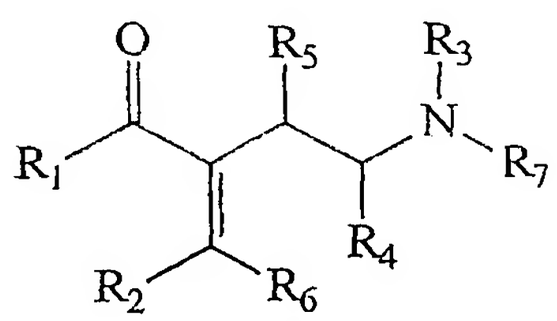
15. The compound according to claim 4, wherein $R_{10}$ is phenyl or an optionally substituted phenyl.

16. The compound according to claim 6, wherein $R_{11}$ is absent.

17. The compound according to any one of claims 2, 3 and 5 in the form of isomeric mixtures.

18. The compound according to any one of claims 2, 3 and 5 in the form of one diastereoisomer.

19. A method for the preparation of a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5, comprising the step of using a compound of formula VI,




VI

wherein $R_1$ - $R_7$, R and R" are as defined in claim 1.

20. The method according to claim 19, further comprising the use of reactants selected from the group consisting of N-methyl urea, dimethyloxosulfonium methylide, methyl hydrazine, benzamidine and 2-aminothiophenol.

21. A method for the preparation of a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5, comprising the step of using 4-halo-benzaldehyde and cyclopropyl-phenyl-ketone.

22. The method according to claim 21, further comprising the use of a metal-iodide.

23. The method according to claim 22, wherein the metal iodide is selected from the group consisting of $Et_2Al$-I or Magnesium iodide.

24. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5 together with pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and carriers.

25. A method for binding to the urotensin II receptor comprising the step of using a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5.

26. A method for binding to the somatostatin 5 receptor comprising the step of using a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5.

27. A method of treating diseases and disorders for which activation or modulation of the urotensin II receptor produces a physiologically beneficial response in said disease or disorder comprising administering an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5.

28. The method according to claim 27, wherein the diseases and disorders are associated with CNS function, such as Parkinson's Disease, Alzheimer's Disease, amylotrophic lateral sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, childhood spinal muscular atrophy, progressive spinal muscular atrophy and progressive bulbar palsy; OPCA; ADHD; schizophrenia; sleep disorders such as insomnia, and autonomic dysfunctions such as Shy Drager syndrome.

29. The method according to claim 27, wherein the diseases and disorders are cardiovascular disorders such as hypertension; hypotensive states related to shock, sepsis, major surgery and congestive heart failure.

30. A method of altering the vascular pressure in a mammal, comprising constricting or dilating vascular tissue in said mammal, the constricting or dilating is performed by the activation of urotensin receptor signaling, said activation being performed by the administration of an effective amount a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5.

31. A method of altering the heart rate in a mammal, comprising the activation of a urotensin receptor, said activating being performed by the administration of an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5.

32. A method of altering the locomotor activity of a mammal, comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5.

33. A compound selected from the group consisting of compound I as defined in claim 1, compound II as defined in claim 2, compound III as defined in claim 3, compound IV as defined in claim 4 and compound V as defined in claim 5 for use as a medicament.